



**Testimony presented before the Agriculture Committee
Wednesday, November 30, 2011**

Steve Tackitt, Health Officer – Barry-Eaton District Health Department

House Bill 5130 – A bill concerning Food Law 2000

Chairman Daley, Vice Chair Denby, Minority Vice Chair Santana and members of the House Agriculture Committee. My name is Steve Tackitt, Health Officer for the Barry-Eaton District Health Department. I've also been a member of each Steering Committee convened by MDARD in the development and revision of Food Law 2000.

I am here representing the Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH). Local Public Health departments are the agencies that administer the retail (restaurant) portion of Food Law 2000 through an agreement with MDARD.

MALPH supports the revisions to Food Law 2000 contained within HB 5130. We believe it strengthens food safety and reduces the risk to the public by requiring both mobile food establishments and Special Transitory Food Units to have a minimum of 1 managerial employee who is currently certified under a personnel certification program accredited by American National Standards Institute (ANSI) utilizing the conference for food protection standards. This recognizes the need for food safety trained managers regardless of the venue in which food is prepared and served.

HB 5130 will allow the director and by authorization the local health department to decline the issuance of multiple temporary food establishment licenses. For local health departments the issuance of multiple temporary food establishment licenses for the same establishment and operator is expensive in both time and resources. If meeting the necessary criteria the establishment could be issued an annual food establishment license. This will be more effective for both the local health department and the foodservice operator.

HB 5130 also takes into consideration the ever changing manner and technology in which food is prepared. It clearly delineates the acceptable manner that non-continuous cooking of raw animal foods can be prepared and served. This is a modification of the 2009 FDA Model Food Code which will be adopted with the passage of HB 5130.

While there are many other proposed modifications to Food Law 2000 contained within HB 5130, they all will be for the benefit of Michigan citizens and visitors to our state. While the proposals will impact local health departments they will have minimal consequence and therefore the Michigan Association for Local Public Health supports the passage of HB 5130.

Thank you.